

THE HAMPDEN-SYDNEY TIGER

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Rampant Mold Plagues Hampden-Sydney College; Administration Blames Weather

*Stewart Thames '19 and
Chad Pisano '19
Editorial Staff*

Campus Residents Report Constant Mold

It is common knowledge among students, faculty, and college employees that mold has been found in buildings throughout the Hampden-Sydney campus. The presence of mold has been identified in dormitories including the Alphabets, Venable, and fraternity houses as well as academic and administrative buildings such as Bagby and Johns Auditorium. More this semester than ever before, mold on campus has been a general health risk and inconvenience for student and faculty on this campus.

Some of the worst cases of mold on this campus have been found on Fraternity Circle. Despite the administration bringing in a privately contracted company to take care of mold on Fraternity Circle, there still have been multiple instances of mold found in fraternity houses. Since that privately contracted company went through the buildings on Fraternity Circle, mold has been reported in the Kappa Sigma and Kappa Alpha hous-

es. Davis Hornak '19, the house manager of Kappa Alpha and the head RA of Greek life, said that he first observed mold in the KA house when he moved in for RA training, but that it appeared to have resolved after third party companies including "Francisco's Restoration, Duct Dusters... [and a third party biochemist] Mr. Vance" were contracted by Buildings and Grounds to deal with this issue. However, just a few days later, Hornak said that he saw mold on the ceiling tiles in his room and he later noticed it on his couch and clothing. Hornak said that he spoke with Dean of Students Robert Sabbatini and Associate Dean of Student Robert Pantele and that he was given an apartment in Crawley Forum to live in until the mold in his room has been eradicated.

In addition to being found in the KA house, mold has also been found in the Kappa Sigma house as well. Pictures from inside of the Kappa Sigma house reveal mold in the air vents, and possibly the presence of mold in the water fountain as well. The Kappa Sigma house manager, Ben Anderson '19, mentioned that parents of students living in the Kappa Sigma house noticed the mold during Parent's Weekend and contacted the administration. Anderson remarked that the administration told him that the presence of mold has been an issue in college dormitories across the state of Vir-

ginia. When asked if the administration had given addressed Anderson's concerns in the Kappa Sigma house, he responded that "worst case scenario, if there is a real safety concern then we will be moved to the Women's Guest House" and that the administration will give him a decision soon.

Both Hornak and Anderson remarked that the administration has "shown a lot of concern" in "addressing the situation as quickly as possible." However Hornak did express some frustration that it was unclear if he would be reimbursed for his damaged couch and clothes; when asked if the school could have been more proactive in addressing the mold in dorms, Hornak noted that "there's a three month period every year to fix and ensure that students are living in safe and healthy environment." Now the school will have to pay a significant amount money to fix this problem.

Mold on campus has not been confined only to Fraternity Circle. It has been found in the Alphabets, Venable, other dormitories and academic buildings. In Venable, Logan Stum '19 stated that "water damage lead to mold in my closet...My clothes also received damage and were covered in mold." Cameron Bohannon '21, a resident in F dorm, said that there was mold in their dorm when they moved in, and that a company was hired to

Continued on page 2



*Water damage in a Venable closet that led to mold occurring
(Photo: Logan Stum)*



*Alleged mold in a shower on Chi Phi's grounds
(Photo: John David Gooden)*

In this issue...

Opinions: Bad Piz-
za, Classes to Take,
#MeToo & Politics pg. 3

New Equity and Inclu-
sion Efforts, Professor
Whitney Profile pg. 4

Senate Snapshot, SGA
Opinion pg. 5; Mold
Continued pg. 2, 6

Tiger Soccer Struggles,
Fantasy Football Picks,
pg. 7

Rodknock Column,
Senate Snapshot
Continued pg. 8

INFO



The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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Rampant Mold Continued

come clean it, but the mold has since returned. He said that he and his roommates have to empty their dehumidifier four to five times a day. In addition, Bohannon mentioned that he had an asthma attack last week and had to go to the hospital to receive treatment. Bohannon admits that he has not had an attack since he was seven years old. He is adamant that the mold in his dorm is what caused the attack and said that “there’s really nothing else that could have caused it.”

Elsewhere on campus, John David Gooden '20, a current resident in Chi Phi’s south house, stated “I have had mold in every room I’ve lived in since freshman year...

I have recently found large amounts of mold in the shower.” In C dorm, Jacob Mitchell '19 reported that “The day we moved into C Dorm, there was mold... on [some] of the furniture. There was also mold in almost all of the air vents, and in my roommates’ bathroom there was about a half-inch thick layer of fuzzy, gray mold growing on the air vent. A work order was placed and B&G quickly responded the next day... [but] I feel sure there’s more mold inside the vents that can’t be seen. We keep dehumidifiers running to try to keep the mold from coming back.” He concluded by noting that after being at Hampden-Sydney College for four years, he’s “never seen the mold on campus as bad as it’s been this year; it seems like it’s everywhere.”

While mold has been rampant in dormitories, it has also been an issue for school employees as well. Web Content Creator Kelly Dudley, who works in the basement of Johns Auditorium, said that she and others who work in the basement of Johns “have battled with water and mold issues

for years.” Professor Rebecca Jayne, who has her office in Bagby Hall and states that she has noticed mold in the building before, said “I moved my office hours elsewhere out of an abundance of caution, after some mold grew in my office over the summer. At the beginning of the semester, the college provided me with a dehumidifier for my office, and I haven’t seen any new mold in my office since then.”

In *The Hampden-Sydney Tiger*’s own newspaper office, where hours must be spent assembling each newspaper, there were multiple occurrences of mold this summer. The room has since been equipped with a dehumidifier that is emptied irregularly, whenever a staff member is in the office. The regular newspaper meetings have been moved out of the room and into less historically moldy room in the Brown Student Center.

These accounts are not the only reports of mold and mildew that have been affecting the campus this semester, but they do help to provide an accurate picture of the pervasiveness of this issue. What is clear is that this

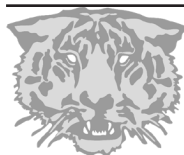
problem has been particularly troubling this semester when compared to previous semesters, and many members of campus are upset about how common mold seems to be and how the college appears to be dealing with the needs of students and employees.

Administration, Buildings and Grounds Blame Perfect Mold Conditions

Because it is such a thorough problem this year, as *The Tiger* has in part documented, the administration of the college was more than happy to meet with us and clarify what exactly is going on and what steps they are taking to solve this seemingly mold problem. On behalf of the college, Dean of Students Robert Sabbatini, Associate Dean John Holleman, and Area Coordinator for Room Assignments & Greek Life Andrew Marshall were contacted; to describe the efforts that Buildings and Grounds has made since the summer to combat this problem, John Pregarman, Director of Physical Plant, was contacted and interviewed. Interestingly, the members of the administration that *The Tiger* talked to did not seem to know much about the activities of B&G to maintain the dorms over the summer and what steps exactly were made to deal with mold in some cases; for instance, none of

Continued on page 6

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OPINIONS

Sauerkraut Pizza? Never Again

Ethan Betterton '20
Guest Contributor

Some of the criticism of the so-called "Moans" is deserved, some is not. As Mr. Hollingshead so eloquently put it in the last issue of *The Tiger*, we often like to complain because everyone else does it, too. I am not writing to review the food, but I will note a recent experience I had in the "Moans."

Thursday, October 4, like all Thursdays, was a themed dinner in the "Moans": Oktoberfest. Among the various "German" foods were bratwursts, pot roast, potatoes, and pretzels. The metaphorical icing on the cake, however, was the "German sausage pizza." I tried it, figuring "German sausage" was just a "Moans" rebranding of Italian sausage, and it couldn't be that bad. Unbeknownst to myself – and unadvertised on the menu – was the fact that this pizza also contained sauerkraut.

Yes, you read that correctly. We had pickled cabbage and bratwurst pizza. With cheese and sauce, of course. I cannot begin to describe the feeling I felt when I took a bite of this pizza, but I will say that I only had one bite.

Dinner in the "Moans" is generally hit or miss. Still, I was shocked that a themed dinner, which usually proves a special occasion in the "Moans" if there ever are any, could be so bad. I do not mean to disparage the employees of Thompson Hospitality because I genuinely believe that they do the best that they can daily to feed 1,200 men who are not always easy to please. To be sure, disliking the "Moans" is a Hampden-Sydney tradition unlike any other, and we would all do well to realize that the employees of Thompson Hospitality are constantly fighting an uphill battle against our own prejudices. But sauerkraut pizza? Never again, please.

Four Essential H-SC Classes

Shelby Hanna '20
Opinion Editor

As we approach the middle of the semester, the time when students will select courses for the Spring Semester is fast approaching. It is with that in mind that I would like to extend some advice to the Class of 2022 concerning course-selection. Specifically, I believe there are four courses every Hampden-Sydney student should take while he is here: ECON 101, MATH 121, PHIL 102, and GVFA 101. While these courses are not mandated by the Core Curriculum, each of them satisfy a different component of the Core.

Hampden-Sydney's mission is to form good men and good citizens. Much of the Core and our liberal arts tradition, in cultivating a broad base of knowledge for students, equips students here with a rudimentary background in a variety of different fields that help order one's thoughts and provide greater flexibility in the face of changing circumstances. In the twenty-first century, this is the great advantage of a liberal arts degree in the face of more specialized degrees, like one might get at an engineering or nursing school.

A good man and a good citizen both need to be able to navigate the changing winds, and, in the face of an uncertain future, a broad background to draw upon is critical to that ability. Towards that end, however, the ability to interpret new information is an important meta-skill to have. It is for this reason that I make my first three recommendations.

ECON 101, aka Introduction to Economics, is a crash course in the way an economist looks at the world. In learning this, I was equipped with a series of analytic tools I still use today when I read the news or think about current events

MATH 121, aka (Introductory) Statistics, provided me with an introduction to fundamental concepts used in understanding data, especially social scientific data. If taken with the right approach, Statistics will bring greater clarity to thinking about probabilities.

PHIL 102, aka Introduction to Philosophy, serves a dual function. First, it is a course that forces student to think about complicated issues, reconsider their opinions, and clearly express them. Second, though, some of the basics of ethical philosophy are covered in PHIL 102. The point of forming good men and good citizens is not merely to form successful individuals that are good at being men and good at being citizens. The College Mission seeks to form men and citizens that are morally good, too, and philosophy can attend to this purpose.

GVFA 101, aka Introduction to American Government, not only provides students with an understanding of how our country's government works, but it also gives students the thought that went into designing our government to work in that way. GVFA 101 not only addresses the workings of a set of institutions that seem to be especially pressing on people's minds in the hyper-politicized present, but it also connects us to the thinking of our intellectual ancestors in this country, who thought up and sustained the second oldest written constitution still in use today.

Of course, students are under no obligation to take these courses. There are many fantastic courses offered by the school that I have taken and have left unlisted. There are, I'm sure, many more fantastic courses that have been offered which I have missed the opportunity to take. I do not mean to dismiss their value. However, if there are any freshmen unsure on what courses to take or otherwise looking for advice, this is what I recommend you take as soon as possible.

Political Battles Pervert #MeToo

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-chief

It is sad that one can confidently say that the only thing most Americans can agree on nowadays is that politicians aren't really interested in seeing true progress in any direction; instead, they are interested in furthering some nebulous political agenda that seems further and further away from the things that Americans are actually concerned about. Gone are the days when the deficit was one of the most important and divisive issues that our country faced.

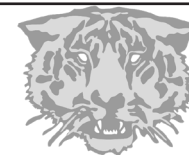
Instead, politicians seemed to be primarily focused on impeding the ability of the opposition to act in any capacity against them. While these efforts to undermine the effective political process began innocuously enough, with the Democrats 'nuking' the filibuster and the Republicans stalling Obama's Supreme Court nominee for the last nine months of his presidency, they have spilled over into the realm of personal ugliness. This latest evolution in the politics of both parties has been to politicize the horrible sexual assault that many women face in today's society. Instead of focusing on providing justice or vindication where each is deserved, many seem to be using the #MeToo movement as a timely scandal creator."

Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh is the latest example of where

this tactic has been employed by the Democratic Party. I am not going to pass judgement about Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's testimony, on whether or not the FBI should investigate someone allegedly almost raping someone else thirty-five years ago while high-school drunk, and whether or not a Supreme Court candidate having numerous allegations involving binge-drinking and sexual harassment (at the very least) should disqualify him from consideration on moral grounds. What I am going to talk about is how exactly these questions about Kavanaugh's moral character were raised and were subsequently dealt with, and how shameful that whole spectacle was.

When I first heard about the sexual assault allegations against Kavanaugh in the middle September, it upset me deeply. It didn't upset me because I loved Kavanaugh up until this point, but because I was instantly reminded of the situation with Roy Moore running for the Senate seat in Alabama. Such hefty accusations should be taken seriously, and in cases like Roy Moore's, they are often divided along partisan lines when it is late in a tough electoral or senatorial battle. Once again, it seemed like what could be credible allegations were being made at the most suspicious of times, moments far after the point in the political process designed to root out weirdos and scandals (primaries, party vetting processes, etc.). A reasonable person has to ask themselves—why would one wait so long to come forward against Kavanaugh? Why would a Professor at a University of California school

Continued on page 5



H-SC's Efforts to Further Equity and Inclusion

Elijah Edwards '22
Staff Writer

In November of 2012, Barack Obama's reelection to the presidency filled the country with celebration, with many plenty of fireworks to express their joy.

But not at Hampden-Sydney College. Rather, students angry at the reelection of a black president took their anger out on the Minority Student Union House.

According to Alex Abbott '17, fireworks flew for intimidation instead of joy. Shouts flew in fury instead of celebration. Racial slurs—and a

noose—hung heavy in the air, grim reminders of the prejudice present on campus.

In fear, members of the MSU tried to diffuse the situation, with little success.

"Campus administrators and student leaders

had to shut things down" states Abbott.

The Hampden-Sydney community took these transgressions seriously and responded by finding the perpetrators guilty of violating the Student Code of Conduct. Moreover, Abbott states that College President at the time, Dr. Chris Howard, brought in the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities to "help spur conversations" that might help in dealing with the aftermath.

Hampden-Sydney College still follows President Howard's example by tackling issues of diversity on campus through new initiatives from the Office of Equity and Inclusion—ideally preventing further issues. The initiatives seek to engage students on campus who belong to circles outside of the campus majority. The office hosts programs like Brother 4 Brother and the Unity ALLiance Raft Debate to welcome students of different backgrounds into the campus community.

Most activities are aimed at student groups who have not always been fully recognized as a part of the brotherhood of Hampden-Sydney: students of color, the LGBT community, first generation students, and others. Students with event ideas or concerns can

contact the Minority Student Union, Unity ALLiance, or International Club. Alex Abbott, head of the Office of Equity and Inclusion, is open to talking about any ideas, suggestions, or problems students may have. Students can also find more information

"Most activities are aimed at student groups who have not always been fully recognized as a part of the brotherhood of Hampden-Sydney"

through the general calendar of events on HSC website's page for diversity.

Other events like the recent Women in Jazz lecture and upcoming performance of Los Valientes seek to embrace the diversity of H-SC's student body by showcasing the culture of different minority groups on campus.

Specifically, for minority groups at H-SC, the Office of Equity and Inclusion presents the new Brother

Continued on page 8

Professor Whitney One of Campus's New Hires

Ian Lichacz '22
Staff Writer

Dr. Whitney is a new English professor at Hampden-Sydney and feels very much at home with the small college feel. On his college search, he only looked at small liberal art colleges like Hampden-Sydney. He attended Haverford—a school that is "very much like" Hampden-Sydney, "if anything they are more alike than they are different," Dr. Whitney commented. After graduating from Haverford, Dr. Whitney spent two years tutoring students back in his hometown of The Bronx, and then went on to Emory to obtain his doctorate in English.

While teaching at Hampden-Sydney, he is concurrently doing research on British Romanticism, specifically the intersections between law and literature. Dr. Whitney also added that he is doing a little bit of work on the intersections between music and literature.

Dr. Whitney's unique background carries into the classroom where he currently teaches two sections of Rhetoric 101 and two sections of English 185: "Special Topics in English: Race, Gender and Identity." When I heard the title of the course I asked Dr.

Whitney how pitching the idea to administration went; he laughingly said: "it was definitely unique" since it is a kind of course you typically wouldn't find at Hampden-Sydney. So I further inquired as to how the English 185 class got its title, and he told me "Well we had to give syllabi early in the summer and I was just moving here from Atlanta. Originally the course was going to be on race and masculinity since Hampden-Sydney is all male. But, I decided on race, gender and identity."

After figuring out the origin of the course I asked Dr. Whitney why he wanted to teach such a course at Hampden-Sydney where he paused for a moment then said "As for why I decided to teach the class, the impression I got when I interviewed here and even the people I spoke to was, I may be one of three faculty of color on the campus, so there is definitely a feeling of a lack of representation for certain issues that need to be discussed."

I asked Dr. Whitney to expand on that idea for me, and he went on to say "I think that Hampden-Sydney often has a reputation of sort of being this prominently white, conservative institution in the rural south, but the fact of the matter is that, the world that the Hampden-Sydney graduates are going to end up entering is no different from the world that graduates from other colleges are entering. So they're going

to have to confront the same issues as anyone else, especially considering the fact that we are living in an age where conversations about race and gender cannot be avoided. So I think it makes more sense to confront those issues by examining authors who have spent a great deal of time conceptualizing ways of thinking about it."

Dr. Whitney then concluded by saying "So that is one of the reasons I decided to teach the class, I thought it would be interesting to explore sort of how we can develop critical vocabulary around how to understand race in a way that everyone can leave the class feeling that they can learn something."



(Photo: jswhitney.files.wordpress.com)

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Writers, photographers, cartoonists and critics are all welcome to join *The Tiger*. Shoot us an email at newspaper@hsc.edu, or drop in on our next weekly meeting held Monday, the 21st at 5:30pm.

No application or experience necessary.

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger



Senate Snapshot: Bill 12 Controversy

*Keifer Pfister '20
Staff Writer*

On Sept. 10 2018 the Senate unanimously passed the Equality of the Branches Act. It stated that the Senate Chairman, as the leader for the legislative branch of the student government, ought to be 'a fair and equal member' of the executive board of the student government. The bill entitles the Senate Chairman equal access to the executive meetings, to special housing afforded to government officials, and recognition in student publications. The bill specifically included an exemption to honor code related meetings of the executive board, as it is not the responsibility of the Senate to take part in honor code related issues. Student Body President Michael Good signed the bill on that day September 10, 2018.

However, on Oct. 1 2018 the majority of the Student Court came out against this bill. The Student Court possesses judicial powers in student life but does not have any legislative power, as designated by The Key. Chairman Connor Eads, representing the opinion of the majority of the court, said in a statement that he believed "The bill needs to be rewritten to address some subtle, but critical, concerns of the court."

One week later, on Oct. 8, 2018, a representative for the Senate stated that the Senate as a collective is not looking to change the bill. Senator Conner Francis, the Senator who

Continued on page 8

Opinion: The Role of H-SC Student Government

*Keifer Pfister '20
Staff Writer*

Inter-governmental rivalry should no longer be tolerated by the student body. Members of the Student Court, Student Senate, and the Student Body President ought to work together in the interests of all students or be voted out of office. Each branch has a different role to serve the student body, and they should each be focused on the tasks set out by The Key and not on the individual interests of the branches.

I view the role of the Student Court like the rear guard for HSC politics. The members of the student court silently and honorably defend the traditional values that attracted so many of us to this college. They defend the Hampden-Sydney man from frauds to our brotherhood and attacks on our collective honor. Essentially, The Court defends the honor of the HSC man.

I view the role of the Student Senate, and the new House of Delegates, as the primary tools to combat bad policies within the college. Their ability to pass legislation and resolutions enables them to combat negative policies within the college, and their open meetings to the public also provide ideal opportunities for students to express dissatisfaction and promote better policy within college. In other words, the Legislature advocates for better policies and conditions for the HSC man.

I view the role of the Student Body President, and his executive staff, as representatives of the collective student body. The Student Body

President is the chief man amongst us. During the rare occasion that the student body protests, he is the man that bargains on our behalf. The Student Body President represents the whole body of Hampden-Sydney.

These branches ought to all work together to make life better on our campus. All branches should be seeking to make life better for all HSC men, not serving to glorify themselves or pursuing a single branch's self-interest. When branches fight amongst one another bad policies fester and grow, the student government fails at the job we elected them to do.

"These branches ought to all work together to make life better on our campus"

I have had the opportunity to know all the student government leaders on this campus. They are all good men, and this should not be considered an attack on any single one of them. This is an attack on the tribal mentality that can possess any one of us, but must not be allowed to remain.

If there ever was a time for petty inter-governmental rivalry, that time has passed. There are new policies on the horizon and more old traditions are threatened every day. Our leaders must focus on threats to the college we love, not on their rivalries against one another. We must not allow the college we love to decline. As good men and good citizens of Hampden-Sydney College we must elect politicians that will act on our behalf. To act on our behalf, they must stop fighting amongst themselves. A government fighting itself cannot effectively serve the interests of the students. I call on every member of student government to put the past in the past and prioritize the interests of the students they were elected to represent

#MeToo Opinion Continued

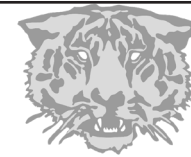
not comment when Kavanaugh was on one of President Trump's favorite short-lists? Yet, the more that is learned about this case, the more incredulous one becomes at the behaviors of the politicians and people involved.

Perhaps the most reprehensible conduct in this case is that of Senator Dianne Feinstein of California, who came forward with the accusations against Kavanaugh at the eleventh hour. Ford lodged her accusations in a tip with the Washington Post, as well as in a letter to her congresswoman and Feinstein, on July 30th. But the American public only heard about the accusations a month and half later, at what seemed like the last possible moment before Kavanaugh's confirmation. While Feinstein has defended her actions as attempts to protect the identity of Ford (who wanted to be kept anonymous), a veteran politician would know that waiting so long before releasing such a massive allegation would surely help fuel skepticism about the veracity of the claim. By seemingly saving this accusation for what a last-ditch effort to fight Kavanaugh's nomination, Feinstein made it into that very thing—whether she meant to or not. Why did she not at least hint of the existence of these claims in the Senate Judiciary Committee? By transporting Ford's claim into the charged world of politics at a particularly impolitic time, Feinstein made sure that the claim was not just seen as a huge potential stain on a federal judge, but also as an attack on the democratic process by about half the nation.

Feinstein and the Democrats who jumped feet-first into this method of fighting the Republicans are not the only people whose conduct degraded the claims of Ford. Kavanaugh himself responded to this allegation by claiming, in a publicly broadcasted opening statement in the United States Senate, that Ford's accusation was a "two-week effort [that] has been

a calculated and orchestrated political hit, fueled with apparent pent-up anger about President Trump and the 2016 election... [and] revenge on behalf of the Clintons and millions of dollars in money from outside left-wing opposition groups." In my honest opinion, claiming that rape allegations are a political hit orchestrated by the Clintons is a particularly great way to undermine one's credibility. It makes a farce of Ford's personal admissions, a woman who seemed credible enough in her claims and calm in her testimony (regardless of if you believe her or what you think should disqualify a judge from the court). And it makes the newest member of our nation's highest court look like a political conspiracy theorist, one who is one step away from claiming that George Soros is poisoning our water and turning the frogs gay.

Kavanaugh's strategy of politicizing the claims and fighting them with partisan rhetoric, as opposed to legal or logical rhetoric, was mirrored in the conduct of Republicans ranging from Mitch McConnell to Donald Trump. The unwillingness of the Grand Old Party to hear rape allegations from Democrats shows a shameful disregard for any people and sometimes laws that stand in the way of their party. The willingness of Democrats to get behind a last minute accusation as a final method of political combat shows a similar disrespect for whether or not this woman was actually telling the truth; to be honest, the whole thing was hard to evaluate impartially because of the way that all Democrats said she was telling the truth and essentially all Republicans insisted she was a lying liberal pawn. I'm sure that when #MeToo started, it was with the goal of bringing sexual assault victims justice and dignity. I'm not sure that happens when politicians get hold of the movement.



Mold Continued; B&G and Admin Comment

them were able to name the independent contractors that Buildings and Grounds had contracted to address the issues of mold in their dorms.

Holleman, the dean in charge of housing, said that official reports of mold have not kept up with the word of mouth reports that usually go hand in hand. He said that the frequency of mold isn't "as extensive as the rumor mill has suggested, a couple of our areas have been experiencing it; Carp X, isolated incidents in the Blakes, some in the Whitehouse area, but it's sporadic, they pop up in different areas... they've been sporadic and in no set location, due to the conditions of the student's room or in a specific area that might have been compromised."

Sabbatini, however, described the areas affected by the mold problem right now as being "Everywhere... it's all over... From what I have seen it has been that no particular area has been worse than another... [It's in] all areas. Especially residence halls, and even in academic buildings, there have been cases of mold, mildew, that sort of thing." Marshall also stated that "As far as the areas that I've dealt the most with, no particular area is worse than any other area." He then went on to draw a distinction between mildew and mold, saying that while "mildew is pretty widespread and that just has to do with moisture, humidity, the air conditioning in the doors, mixing temperature. Mold... hasn't been as much of an issue."

When asked to describe the source of this problem, Sabbatini and Holleman both highlighted how wet and humid the summer had been in Farmville, as it rained consistently when it was not roasting hot outside.

Holleman highlighted that the environment and weather both created "a perfect storm with the weather conditions, the humidity, and the amount of rain that we receive, especially in this area in particular. And in my role as Res Life head I have significant contacts with other directors of housing across the state. This

is not a specific Hampden-Sydney issue; Virginia Union, Lynchburg, Sweetbriar, all of them are having similar issues of buildings being compromised by leaky roofs or gutters not being able to maintain the amount of rain we've been receiving." When asked if the frequency of mold and mildew this year was unprecedented, all of these men stated that it was not, given the climate of this region of Virginia and the frequent rains which have tormented campus this year.

When asked how they dealt with reports of mold and mildew, all three administrators explained that once a work order is filed, it becomes some-

"it's all over campus, all over the state, and actually all over the Southeast region. According to [the professionals] we've worked with... it's probably been the worst [outbreak] in the last fifty years."

thing that B&G deals with as their office deals primarily with Resident Advisors and room assignments. While they have all been out to the dorms to examine extreme cases or persistently problematic buildings, Holleman was quick to point out that "When it comes to the maintenance of those facilities, that goes to B&G and so we kind of work in tandem together. But without those work orders they're not aware of what's going on, so when we hear about incidents... we usually call B&G and give them a heads up." Sabbatini shared this sentiment, but urged students who were experiencing persistent difficulties or who could not get in contact with B&G to contact him directly. Both Sabbatini and Marshall claimed that so far, efforts to combat the mold have been effective. Marshall stated "I would say it's been effective... Especially in the fraternity houses, where we did have the more serious problems... I've noticed a substantial change in the quality of air in the residence halls [that

I oversee] and the fraternity houses."

When asked if the email sent out detailing tips to avoid getting mold in one's room shifted blame from the school to the students, both Sabbatini and Marshall vehemently denied this, with Sabbatini saying "'No, not at all. It's nobody's fault. These things happen, and... we need to address it, take care of it, and move forward. I know there's going to be frustration with it... you don't want to have to deal with mildew or mold. But no, I don't think it's the students fault. It's nobody's fault. These things happen." Marshall further explained that "you [students] are our eyes and ears on a day-to-day

basis... We don't intend to shift the blame on students and we know y'all have enough to worry about besides the biology of mildew and mold."

Something that was striking while The Tiger spoke to administrators was the freedom with which B&G seems to operate from at least the Office of Student Affairs; in order to talk about the specific methods with which mold is eliminated, which outside contractors are hired to deal with particularly bad cases of mold, and what preventative measures the school takes over the summer to avoid moldy conditions, we sat down John Prengaman.

Prengaman also emphasized that the horrible conditions this summer and semester have led to a greater than normal prevalence of mold, saying that "But it's all over campus, all over the state, and actually all over the Southeast region. According to [the professionals] we've worked with... it's probably been the worst in the last fifty years." He estimated that at least 10% of campus has been affected by

mold in a way that was bad enough that Buildings and Grounds was forced to act, acknowledging that this year the amount of mold and mildew on campus has "been unprecedented."

In order to deal with mold, both before and after it occurs, B&G "Pro-actively... clean[s] and treat[s] every room on campus, not just student residence, but also academic and administrative, with a product called Vital Oxide and... a machine called a Germbuster. [That is] a machine that electrostatic sprays to kill any germ spores or mold or bacteria on contact." Because it "only kills what's there that day", it is a solution that is

used frequently both as a preventative measure and "throughout the year when we have any issues with either germs or mold or cleaning problems. [B&G] first started using that when we had the norovirus here about three years ago." In order to make initial decisions about cleaning, Prengaman said that when mold is first reported "It's inspected by typically one of the supervisors, and decisions are made [about] how to clean that. Sometimes it's done in-house, sometimes we bring a third party in. We brought a third party in to about ten different buildings this fall. There were seven different fraternities" that were cleaned by the third party contractors, in particularly their ductwork using a method known as air scrubbing.

Prengaman rated their methods with products like the Germbuster and Vital Oxide as "partially effective. It's helped clean up what was there." However, in particularly bad cases, it is necessary for B&G contract "a professional cleaning company, a third party

cleaning company to help us in certain areas. We've also done some ductwork cleaning, and we also had a biochemist in to do analysis in key problem areas" who were named earlier in the paper. Prengaman claimed that "[Since and due the] biochemist and other professionals we've used, there's been a reduction. But even issues just like the storm, with all the humidity and rain, it's come back in isolated areas. But we continue to look at it."

Prengaman also highlighted the root causes of mold and mildew being "high humidity. Mold is a result of moisture... the moisture gets in furniture, gets on walls... condensation and moisture in the room [is a real factor]." As the email that Holleman sent out earlier this semester highlighted, Prengaman stated that "If you happen to have wet clothes, wet sheets, wet towels... within one day, mold will start to grow on those. [The same thing with furniture]... Any time you have any issues like that and a lack of airflow, so if people put furniture above or right on top of vents, against walls too far and you don't have airflow, you create an opportunity for moisture. Moisture creates condensation and moisture creates airflow."

When asked if B&G had used the fall break to clean some areas more thoroughly than they might be able to with students on campus, he said "We actually have been doing it all along. We started around the first week of August." He explained that they can't "clean all student residence over the summer." This is because H-SC hosts numerous camps for high schoolers and other kids, meaning "We can't clean a lot of areas until after camps are over, which is the third week of July... But we go back thorough those buildings and look to see for issues, and because of high humidity we were addressing that at that time. This weekend, we did some, but because of no power we couldn't use equipment. But we were doing some on Monday and Tuesday this week."

Continued on page 8



SPORTS

Despite Breakout Performances, Sydney Soccer Still Struggling

Stewart Thames '19
Associate Editor

The Tigers fell 3-1 to the Eastern Mennonite Royals this past Wednesday, falling to 5-7-2 overall this season. Spell Carr opened the scoring for the Tigers in the 23rd minute, but the Royals responded with a goal in the first half and two goals in the second half. The loss dropped the Tigers to 3-4-1 in the conference this season, leaving the team in 8th place and fighting for a spot in the ODAC tournament.

Pegged to finish 6th in the conference preseason poll, the Tigers have largely failed to live up to expectations thus far despite being handed a relatively favorable ODAC schedule that left off conference powerhouses Lynchburg and Roanoke. To make matters even more discouraging, three of the Tigers' seven conference games so far this season have been against the bottom three teams in the ODAC. The Tigers won two of those matches against Shenandoah and Emory & Henry, but their 1-0 loss to Virginia Wesleyan in the rain on September 19th was especially disappointing considering it is the Marlins' only win up to this point in the season.

However, some of the Tigers' disappointing play can be chalked up to injuries to key players. Freshman defender Jon Vergara was expected to provide some solid minutes this season, but he tore his ACL in the team's first preseason scrimmage against Roanoke. In addition, Nolan Poretz has yet to make much of an impact on the field because of a thigh injury that has nagged the Division I trans-

fer from Hartwick College since his arrival on the Hill. Still, perhaps the most detrimental injury for the Tigers this season has been the concussion to Jacob Mann. The 6'3 forward lead the team in 2017 with 12 points, but has yet to make an appearance for the Tigers this season. While freshman Paul Mahaffy and junior Josh McCormack have been serviceable replacements for Mann, they have combined for only three goals in 2018.

However, despite the injuries, a

spring about a move to center back, and Weiland has made an almost seamless transition to the position. Weiland says that the change from forward to center back was "natural" since he played the position in high school and club soccer. When asked about what he thought about his move from forward to center back, Weiland remarked, "being a versatile player, I was fine with the position change, knowing it would help the team and I would still get opportunities to go

"Spell Carr has been a revelation for the Tigers in 2018... Through 12 games this season, Carr has scored 6 goals and [had 6 assists.]"

few players have stepped up for the Tigers this season. In the attack, Spell Carr has been a revelation for the Tigers in 2018. Last year, Carr primarily played on the wing while registering a respectable 6 points with a goal and four assists. For the 2018 season, coach DiNuzzo moved the Clinton, NC native to the middle of the field as a playmaking attacking midfielder, and the results have paid off with Carr already surpassing his career point total in his first three years on the Hill. Through 12 games this season, Carr has scored 6 goals and is second in the ODAC with 6 assists.

On the other side of the field, fellow senior Hunter Weiland is also having a breakout year as a center back. Previously, Weiland was a forward during his first three years at Hampden-Sydney, and he was tied with Jacob Mann last season for points on the team. However, DiNuzzo approached Weiland this past

forward." He definitely has had his opportunities this season; he is second on the team – behind Carr – with 5 goals, and he has 3 assists to his name this season. Weiland has been what many would consider a ball-playing center back. He looks comfortable on the ball, and has demonstrated an ability to jumpstart attacks with line-breaking passes through the midfield.

Even with breakout seasons from Carr and Weiland, the Tigers have yet to play to their full potential this season due to injuries. With only 10 points through 8 conference matches, the Tigers' last two conference games against Ferrum and Guilford will be crucial in determining their postseason status. Realistically, the Tigers need at least a win against Ferrum or Guilford if they want to make the ODAC tournament. Their next match will be on Friday, October 19th at fifth place Ferrum.

Fantasy Football Weekly Picks

Garrett Barton III '21
Sports Editor

UP:

Andrew Luck, QB, Indianapolis Colts

Although Luck's shoulder injury sidelined him for the entire 2017 season and his offensive line still struggles significantly, Luck has the seventh-most fantasy points among quarterbacks this season. He has been particularly effective in the past three weeks, as he has averaged 25 fantasy points per game in that stretch. This week, Luck and the Colts face Oakland. The lowly Raiders have been absolutely terrible against quarterbacks this season, and that trend doesn't look it will change any time soon. Expect Luck to be among the top-scoring quarterbacks this week.

Adam Thielen, WR, Minnesota Vikings

For the past two seasons, Thielen has been a solid second for Minnesota behind Stephon Diggs. This season, he has become the surefire number-one option for Kirk Cousins, while scoring the second-most wide receiver fantasy points through 7 weeks this season. Thielen has accumulated 100 or more yards receiving in every game this season, which is a mind-boggling stat. He has five touchdowns this season, which is already one more than his season total from last year. This week, Thielen is facing this New Orleans Saints, who have already allowed eleven touchdowns to wide receivers this season in only six games. Look for Thielen to continue his streak of dominance this week in Minnesota.

DOWN:

DeShaun Watson, QB, Houston Texans

Despite battling injuries throughout the 2018 season, Watson has been productive as a fantasy quarterback, averaging 19.4 points per game. Although this stat line is consistent with that of a starting fantasy QB, Watson has a few serious red flags. He has thrown seven interceptions and lost two fumbles through seven games. He has games of 11 and 5.3 fantasy points respectively, and is still recovering from a cracked rib and a bruised lung. This week, Watson faces a top-ten defense Miami Dolphins. Miami has forced an impressive fourteen turnovers this season, which makes this game a bad one for the Texans' young star. Sit Watson if you have him.

T.J. Yeldon, RB, Jacksonville Jaguars

After the 2017 draft when the Jags took workhorse Leonard Fournette, it seemed as though Yeldon's future in the NFL was bleak. However, Yeldon's unique pass-catching ability and a hamstring injury to Fournette has caused Yeldon to be a solid fantasy running back through the first third of the 2018 season, with an average of just over 12 fantasy points per game. However, Jacksonville just acquired RB Carlos Hyde on Friday and Jags head coach Doug Marrone has expressed his optimism for a Leonard Fournette return this week. Additionally, the Jags face the Eagles this week, who have been the third-toughest defense in the league against running backs this season. Find an alternative for Yeldon this Sunday.

Note: Predictions are based on ESPN's Standard Scoring System.



Inclusion Continued

4 Brother initiative, a mentorship program aimed at minority students, focused on establishing a better system of support by fostering academic, personal, and social growth.

Programs like B4B seek to not only improve the quality of life for minority groups on campus but hope to ensure that they remain on campus.

Based on data from the college factbook and Dean of Faculty Dr. Walter McDermott, the following graphic shows the recent withdrawal rates of minority students at H-SC.

According to the College factbook, during the 2016-2017 school year, 164 minority students were enrolled and 35 withdrew—totaling to a withdrawal rate of about 21 percent that year. As a result, the new initiatives like B4B seek to improve minority student retention.

Illustrating the importance of initiatives like B4B, members of the MSU testify to the benefits of feeling included in the H-SC community.

Brian Gwaltney '20 states: "MSU helped me find a group of guys who I could relate to, which is big at any school. Finding a group or groups that can help you make new friends and engage in meaningful conversation is important. MSU has been one group that provided that for me. A lot of members of MSU, have faced similar type of discrimination or discomfort within their lives—not just HSC. Being a member has given me comfort to know I'm not the only one that goes through or hears certain things."

As for students in the Unity Alliance, feeling accepted in the H-SC community holds similar weight. At this year's Raft Debate, UA president Dalton Hall '19 referred to an "epidemic of loneliness" plaguing gay students on campus. In fighting this epidemic, Hall states:

"As an organization, the Unity Alliance is committed to (1) providing a space for LGBTQ+ students to be their most authentic selves without fear of judgment or social reprisal,

and (2) giving LGBTQ+ students the opportunity to meaningfully engage with a larger community that exists to support them, some knowledge of which might be clouded by the very loneliness we profess to fight."

Following President Howard's precedent of starting conversation on campus and the goals of the Office of Equity and Inclusion, Hall states that

"Essentially, the opportunity the Unity Alliance offers is one where LGBTQ+ students and their allies can augment their college experience with a meaningful discussion about what it means to be who they are. In a time when issues of non-straight identity are being discussed on the national stage and on a campus that doesn't always have that discussion, the why of the Unity Alliance becomes all the more important."

Ultimately, through new initiatives, the Office of Equity and Inclusion hopes to support exactly this—conversation.

"In order to address problems and situations, you have to have an awareness of them," comments Abbott on the importance of creating conversation through the office's new initiatives.

He wishes to provide "resources for and facilitate connections for as large of a group as possible. What

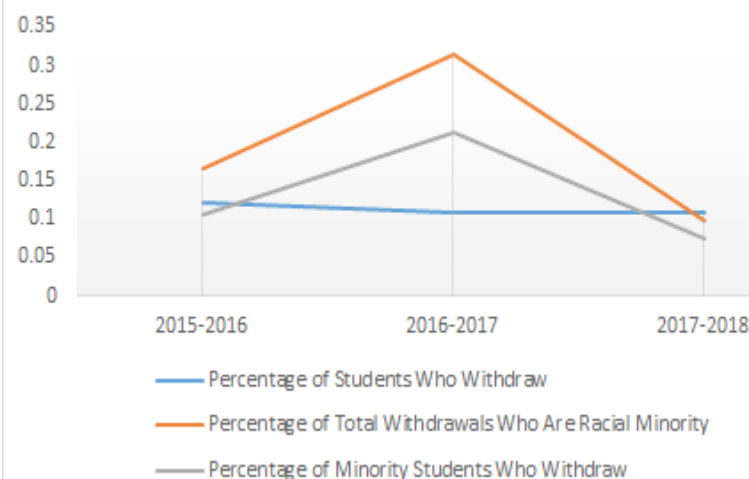
[he] is trying to do is provide something for everyone." He finds working with students and providing inclusive programming "incredibly fulfilling," so much so that he hopes the Office of Equity and Inclusion expands beyond its currently limited capacities.

However, creating conversation through awareness proves difficult with strained resources.

"Essentially, I am the office," Abbott notes. Though this gives him autonomy and freedom, it also poses serious barriers in connecting with the student body. One person can only create so many events, talk to so many people. To ameliorate this issue, the office hopes initiatives like B4B and organizations like the MSU and UA take part in creating groups that extend conversation beyond the classroom and office of student affairs.

To start conversation, gain awareness, and better educate the importance of equity and inclusion, organizations like the UA are currently working with the Office of Equity and Inclusion to create days of visibility and solidarity for different minority communities on campus. The UA is currently planning Pride activities for April to increase visibility and show that H-SC supports its LGBT and minority students.

Minority Student Withdrawal Rate Over Time



Senate Snapshot Continued

wrote the bill, said, "A compromise is not needed" and "The people that are having problems with it are not a part of the legislative system." Francis stated that he offered to both meet with Eads and meet with the collective of the court to explain his bill; however, he was not taken up on either account.

As of now a meeting to clarify the standing of the bill will likely occur within the next week. Dean Robert Sabbatini, Eads, and Francis will all be in that meeting. President Good and Senate Chairman Larry Pullen are potential attendees as well. This meeting is not likely to change anything as there is no precedent standing, that I know of, for the court to overturn legislation from the Senate.

Mold Cont.

Addressing claims that turning the AC off over the summer might exacerbate problems with airflow and temperature that lead to mold, Prengaman definitively stated "That's not true at all. We don't turn the AC off anyone over the summer at all. We have some of the systems set up so that on weekends the AC may be turned up... as any energy saving method... But we don't do that because we want to maintain constant airflow in every building."

Finally, Prengaman concluded by saying that dealing with mold is "a two way street. We're trying to do everything we can... We offer dehumidifiers to all students. He and the administration both ask that students please report any emergence of mold as soon as it is seen, use dehumidifiers in their rooms, and keep their belongings as dry as possible. Whether or not this will be enough to tackle the massive mold infestation this year remains to be seen.

Rodknock

Jasper Green '19
Staff Writer

In the last installment of Rodknock, I raised the issue that the information I was providing wouldn't be useful or interesting to most of the audience. This week, however, I am happy to announce that is not the case, although the group I am referring to usually isn't concerned with reading. I am of course talking about Jeep owners. This week I drove two Jeep Wranglers: a 2006 TJ Rubicon (owned by Noah Cook) and a 2015 JK Four-Door Sahara (owned by Hampton Thomas).

The 2006 had a six-speed manual and the legendary AMC 4.0L inline six-cylinder engine. This TJ represents the last wheezing breath of what most enthusiasts consider to be authentic Jeeps. The reason being that 2006 was the end of all AMC parts installed in the Wrangler. The TJ was by far the easiest manual transmission I've ever had the pleasure of rowing through. I could just let the clutch out, and it would move.

The JK had a 3.6L V6 engine that was bolted to an automatic gear box. The JK was significantly faster, but not as rough and utilitarian as the TJ. It was like comparing an H1 hummer to an H3. Despite having a touchscreen radio, easy to enter cabin, and heated seats, the driving experience was similar to the TJ.

At the end of the day what really impressed me about the Wranglers is how serious they are – even the JK – about being off-roaders. They had roll cages as standard equipment! If I had to pick one, I probably would want the TJ for fun, but, if I had to drive it every day, I'd be content with the JK. The Jeep brand is bread and butter as far as Chrysler is concerned. Jeeps hold their value well, and they are fun just to drive for no reason. Whether it's getting to participate in the "Jeep wave" or riding around in the woods, it's hard to not be happy in a Jeep.